

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, new claims 63-118 are added. Original claims 1, 8, 19, 34, 49, 51 and 55 are maintained.

In the prior Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended to delete dependent claims having multiple dependencies, thereby reducing the filing fee. Such cancellation is without prejudice. Applicants retain all rights to the subject matter covered by the cancelled dependent claims. The subject matter now not included in these claims may be reintroduced as multiply dependent claims or as separate independent or dependent claims in the present application or in a continuation and/or divisional application.

Prompt, favorable action on the subject application, as currently amended, is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Preliminary Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (000023-00122). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicants hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely.

Any fees due are authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 8, 2005